

House Resolution No. 2991

Whereas, it is with profound respect and admiration that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause in their diverse legislative endeavors in order to acknowledge milestone events in the lives of Show-Me State residents who have dedicated themselves to meeting the needs of others; and

Whereas, on Sunday, May 18, 2003, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Joplin, Missouri, Sister Mary Ernest La Forge of the Sisters of Mercy will renew her commitment to a life of service to the poor, sick, uneducated, or disadvantaged members of society; and

Whereas, Sister Mary Ernest La Forge will be joined in her renewal of vows by her colleagues, Sister Mary Corita Holmes, Sister Mary Angelene Schram, and Sister Suzanna Jones, all of whom have contributed a combined 235 years of service to the Joplin community and others; and

Whereas, one of the Sisters of Mercy for seventy years, Sister Mary Ernest utilizes the venue of St. John's Regional Medical Center in the performance of her heartfelt duties; and

Whereas, Sister Mary Ernest has given herself to a celibate lifestyle in which she has set aside many material possessions in order to be unencumbered for the work she does for Joplin's citizens in need; and

Whereas, through her simple lifestyle, Sister Mary Ernest has provided a model of ethical living for the sake of a broader purpose, has demonstrated the value of a life well-lived, and has taught how to live in harmony and interdependence with all of creation; and

Whereas, in her renewal of vows, Sister Mary Ernest is restating her desire to seek justice and to share compassion with all of those with whom she comes in contact:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to commend Sister Mary Ernest La Forge for her seventy years of selfless service with the Sisters of Mercy and to convey to her this legislative body's genuine best wishes for many more years of loving, productive service to come; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Sister Mary Ernest La Forge of Joplin, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Ron F. Richard
District No. 129

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 2991, adopted May 16, 2003.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker